

Dear FCC, I was able to hear parts of the meeting that took place in Monterey, Ca on NPR. I strongly disagree with the direction that the FCC has taken to raise the limits on media ownership. I support the courts ruling to modify the rules. I am disappointed that there has been only one FCC meeting on the west coast and at that meeting only two commissioners were present most notably Chairman Michael Powell was absent. I felt that discussion of the different panels was excellent as well as citizen statements at the end. These are complicated issues and need more public discussion. It seemed to me that the overwhelming theme of the meeting is that local programming and increased ownership limits are incompatible. There are multitude of reasons why. These issues are important to me because I feel that programs on the Broadcast media and radio do not keep me informed or entertained. This is my opportunity to voice my dissent for the policies of the FCC. I think that it is a travesty to our democracy that all network commercial broadcast media outlets coverage of elections and candidates is so scant that actual time spent reporting on elections and candidates is many times less than the paid advertising for candidates. I feel that there is not enough free air time on broadcast media to allow candidates significant time to discuss and debate the issues. And therefore Broadcast Media are failing the needs of the public and need drastic reform. There is virtually no debate on the TV or radio about controversial issues! The founding fathers disagreed about many things in the early days of this country. But they discussed things and came up with a solutions: the Constitution and the Bill of Rights the cornerstone being Freedom of Speech. Where is the freedom of Speech and access to the system in which ownership is consolidated into fewer and fewer hands. The time has come to give the airways back to the people who own them by law the people of the United States of America. Michael Nettles